

GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES FOR EVALUATING AND ACCEPTING PUBLIC ART AND MONUMENTS TO BE LOCATED ON CITY PROPERTY

1.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to insure that public art and monuments placed on public property are of high artistic merit, that the thematic material is appropriate for the City, and that the monument treats its subject matter with appropriate dignity.

2.0 GENERAL POLICY

It is the general policy of the City of Bangor to support efforts to increase the City's inventory of public art and monuments. Public monuments serve to recognize and memorialize people, events, and social trends that are important to the history of Bangor and to our sense of place as a community. Public Art serves to enhance the cultural and aesthetic quality of life and to add interest and excitement to our community's public spaces.

3.0 GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC MONUMENTS

In considering whether a specific proposal for a public monument is appropriate, the following criteria should be applied:

- 3.1 The monument relates to persons or events recognized by the public as of sufficient significance to the community or its history as to warrant a public presence.
- 3.2 The monument honors an individual, group of individuals, place, or event that has a direct relationship to Bangor. It recognizes a social trend, idea or symbol which has been seminal in changing the preconceptions, attitudes, and outlook of the citizens of Bangor.
- 3.3 In the case of individuals, persons to be honored should have died a sufficient length of time in the past, generally at least twenty years, for their ideas, service, and accomplishments to be placed in an accurate and meaningfully interpreted historical perspective.
- 3.4 The subject is of relevance to the community as a whole, not solely to a distinct segment or subset of the community.
- 3.5 The artistic merit of the proposal, including consideration of the suitability of the artistic theme to its subject matter.
- 3.6 If the subject is portrayed elsewhere in a public space, the proposal will present a different facet of the subject and/or not detract from the existing monument.
- 3.7 The adequacy of documentation provided to support the importance of the subject and the factual background on which the case has been built for erecting the monument.

4.0 GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC ART

In considering whether a specific proposal for a public artwork is appropriate, the artistic merit of the proposal shall be reviewed, including the suitability of the artistic theme to its subject matter and its relevance to the community.

5.0 APPROVAL PROCESS -- CONCEPTUAL DESIGN

When a proposal is made, either by the City or a group within the community, to erect a monument or artwork on public property owned or controlled by the City, the following review and approval process should be implemented.

- 5.1 The organization seeking approval for the monument or artwork shall submit an application to the City Manager. The application shall include a general discussion of the purpose of the work, the artistic format or medium to be employed, and the proposed location. In the case of a public monument, the application shall specifically address the criteria outlined in Section 3 above.
- 5.2 The City Manager shall refer the application to the Council for Cultural Development and to appropriate City staff for review and comment, and . Those staff members will participate with the Art in Public Places subcommittee in the review of the application.
- 5.3 The Art in Public Places subcommittee shall review the proposal and make a recommendation to the Council for Cultural Development as to whether the general concept presented should be approved or denied. For a proposed monument, the Council shall be guided by the criteria established in Section 3 above; for a proposed public art project, the Council shall be guided by the criterion established in Section 4 above.
- 5.4 Upon receipt of the Council's recommendation, the City Council shall take formal action to approve or deny the concept as presented.

6 APPROVAL PROCESS – DETAILED DESIGN

- 6.1 Once conceptual design approval has been granted, the organization promoting the project shall submit a detailed proposal to the Art in Public Places subcommittee including a detailed description of the artwork or monument (accompanied by perspective drawings where appropriate), the location, budget, funding plan (including plans for a maintenance endowment), and plan for implementing the project, including a projected timeline.
- 6.2 The Art in Public Places subcommittee shall then review the design and the proposed location to determine whether they are appropriate. In making this decision, the committee shall take into account the following:
 - 6.2.1 That the integrity of the artistic merit of the proposal as initially presented has been maintained as the proposal has been developed.
 - 6.2.2 The extent to which the work is consistent with the public location selected and the surrounding natural and human landscape.
 - 6.2.3 Public safety and security.
 - 6.2.4 The nature and expense of ongoing maintenance required and to what degree the burden of maintenance and upkeep will fall on the city.

- 6.3 Upon completion of this review, the Art in Public Places subcommittee shall report its recommendations to the Council on Cultural Development. The Council may recommend that the project be approved, be approved with modifications, or be denied.
- 6.4 The City Council shall then take the necessary action to formally approve or deny the proposal, including adopting the necessary Council Order to accept ownership of the monument/artwork once completed and establishing the amount required, if any, for a maintenance endowment.

7 FINAL DESIGN

The organization proposing the monument or artwork shall prepare final design documents for submission to the Art in Public Places subcommittee. These shall include details regarding materials, scale, site plan, design, and other information bearing on the final project. The committee must approve the final design of the project. Prior to final approval, the committee shall seek the advice and recommendations of the Director of Infrastructure and Development Support, the Chief of Police, and the Director of the Department with responsibility for the property on which the monument/artwork is to be located. No work may begin until the project has been approved by the citizen Art in Public Places subcommittee and all required permits have been obtained.

8 PERMITS AND CONSTRUCTION

Prior to construction, the proposing organization must:

- 8.1 Obtain all necessary licenses and permits for the project
- 8.2 Deposit with the City the maintenance endowment, if any, required by the City
- 8.3 Submit to the City all required design documents. Shop drawings and maintenance instructions must be submitted as available and prior to final City acceptance.
- 8.4 Construction must be done in accordance with approved plans and permits. Minor modifications or deviations may be approved by the Director of Infrastructure and Development Support. Other modifications must be approved by the citizens committee.

9 RESPONSIBILITY FOR REVIEW

The Director of Infrastructure and Development Support shall periodically review this policy and recommend any required changes.

Council Reference: Amended by Council Order 05-192, June 13, 2005